Export of silk to China

3317. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China has placed an order to a Karnataka based company for import of silk very recently, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that there exists vast scope for export of silk from Karnataka, if so, the steps Government propose to take to enhance marketability of silk from the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. One of the Silk Weaving Factory in Bangalore received an export order worth Rs. 25.00 lakhs for export of natural silk yarn, fabrics, ready made garments, silk carpets and silk waste from a Chinese Silk Import and Export Corporation. The assignment has been dispatched.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Central Silk Board has drawn up a programme for transfer of technology, seed supply, training and financial & technical support in crucial areas of sericulture and silk development, in order to assist & supplement the efforts of the State Government to improve the quality, productivity and production of the State.

Target of producing bivoltine and multi-voltine silk

3318. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has decided to set a target of producing 11,625 tonnes of bivoltine and 20,450 tonnes of multi-voltine silk by the year 2010;

(b) if so, whether the country is producing only 600 tonnes of bivoltine silk;

(c) whether efforts are being made to capture a place in the global market;

(d) if so, the total silk produced at present in the country;

(e) to what extent they meet the demand;

(f) whether India imported around 4,000 tonnes of silk from China; and

(g) if so, the steps being taken to improve the production of silk in the country during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (e) Silk production in the country at the end of the IXth Plan is estimated at 15,857 tonnes of raw silk,of which 14,432 tonnes is mulberry silk and 1425 tonnes non-mulberry silk. Of the mulberry silk, bivoltine silk at the end of 2000-2001 is estimated at 573 tonnes. It is estimated that the production falls short of the demand by approximately 6000 tonnes, and is made up by import of raw silk, mainly from China.

The Central Silk Board in collaboration with State Governments has drawn up a production programme for the coming years which envisages a production of about 11,625 tonnes of bivoltine and 20,450 tonnes of cross breed multivoltine mulberry silk by 2010. Non-mulberry silks by the same year are projected at 2460 tonnes. This production programme includes a strategy for implementation and achievement which envisages that efforts at rearing bivoltine mulberry silk will bear fruit in giving a substantially enhanced share of the export market to the country.

(f) Yes, Sir. India has imported 4738 tonnes of raw silk during the year 2000-2001, of which 4219 tonnes were imported from China.

(g) The steps and programmes started to improve production of silk in the country include mainly the following:—

(i) 36 Catalytic Development Programmes are being implemented during IX Plan.

(ii) Project for Promotion of Popularizing the Practical Bivoltine Sericulture Technology with assistance of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

(iii) A sub-programme on development of non-mulberry silk-tasar, muga and eri under UNDPFHAP Programme.

(iv) Seri-2000 this is a part of technical and scientific cooperation between Government of India and Switzerland.

(v) Through its research and development programmes and transfer of technology to the States, the Central Silk Board is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments for augmenting production and productivity of silk in the country.